



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Sacramento Fish & Wildlife Office
Species Account
CALISTOGA ALLOCARYA
Plagiobothrys strictus



CLASSIFICATION: Endangered

Federal Register Notice 62-54791; October 22, 1997
http://ecos.fws.gov/docs/federal_register/fr3169.pdf
(1.6 MB)

We do not have a picture of this species. If you have one, we would be interested in showing it here. Contact our External Affairs Division at (916) 414-6600.

STATE LISTING STATUS AND CNPS CODE:

This species was listed as threatened by the California Department of Fish and Game in January 1990. The California Native Plant Society has placed it on List 1B (rare or endangered throughout its range).

CRITICAL HABITAT: None designated

RECOVERY PLAN: None

5-YEAR REVIEW: Initiated March 5, 2008

DESCRIPTION:

Calistoga allocarya, also known as *Calistoga popcorn flower*, is a small erect herb belonging to the borage family (Boraginaceae). This plant grows 1 to 4 decimeters (4 to 16 inches) in height from a single stem or branches from the base. The lower linear leaves are small and nearly hairless.

Small, usually paired, white flowers appear in March and April on a curved inflorescence. The fruit is a small egg-shaped nutlet, with a keel on the back.

Calistoga allocarya may be difficult to distinguish from many other species of popcorn flower (*Plagiobothrys*). Five other species have ranges that overlap the range of *Calistoga allocarya*. See Jepson Manual, below, for a detailed description of *Calistoga allocarya* (as "*Calistoga popcorn flower*") and the similar species.

DISTRIBUTION:

Calistoga allocarya grows in the foothill grasslands of Napa County. It is found in mesic (moderately wet) areas, including vernal pools, next to and fed by hot springs and small geysers. These pools have high concentrations of boron, arsenic, and sulfates, and support a uniquely adapted flora.

U.S. Geological Survey 7.5 Minute Quads: *Calistoga* (517D) 3812255

THREATS:

One population has been lost because of urbanization and agricultural land conversion. Two remaining populations are known. One is found at the *Calistoga* Airport. Another is at a small

undeveloped hot springs and is bisected by a paved county road, The combined area of both is less than 900 square feet. Both are on private lands and are unprotected

REFERENCES FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

General references about California plants

www.fws.gov/sacramento/es/plant_spp_accts/plant_references.htm

The Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California. This is the standard reference about California plants. The Manual is available in an [online version](#). See also the [Jepson Online Interchange](#) for updates.

For images of similar species, see CalPhotos <http://calphotos.berkeley.edu/>.

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